

Press release

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## Danish and German flag on new Gedser-Rostock ferries from spring 2012

**The two new Scandlines vessels for the Gedser-Rostock route to be put in service in 2012 will be christened M/S Copenhagen and M/S Berlin. M/S Copenhagen will sail under the Danish flag while M/S Berlin will sail under the German flag, thereby reflecting the dual-national character of the Scandlines Group and the Gedser-Rostock route. This decision underlines the strategic focus to improve traffic on the Copenhagen-Berlin corridor, paving the way for future growth in both countries.**

"This decision shows that Scandlines is rooted deeply in both countries, Denmark and Germany", says Bengt Pihl, CEO of Scandlines. "It is a further step in Scandlines' strategy to become the partner of choice for travelling and transportation on the Baltic Sea for both Scandinavians and Germans".

The two new vessels were ordered in 2010 to replace two older, smaller vessels. The ferries are being built by P+S Werften in Stralsund and offer capacity for 460 cars or 90 trucks. Passenger capacity will increase to 1,500 from 1,000 today. The vessels are more environmental friendly due to lower fuel consumption.

Aside from the two new ferries, Scandlines has dedicated significant resources to the expansion of its business. The Scandlines shipping line opened a BorderShop at the Port of Rostock on 31 May, 2011. The shopping area measures 1,200 square meters and is part of the investment program for the Gedser-Rostock route.

The upcoming service of the two new vessels and potential redeployment of the replaced vessels has meant organizational changes. Scandlines management is in talks with the works council and trade unions about details of the transformation process, which results in redundancies of about 100 employees partly due to a more efficient manning on the new vessels.

Bengt Pihl continues: "With our ongoing investments to modernize both the fleet and the harbour operations, Scandlines is continuously adapting to a challenging and increasingly competitive market environment. Our aim is to remain a leading transportation service provider in the Baltic area and the investment in this route reflects our commitment to ensure that Scandlines is equipped for the future. "

Read more about Scandlines on [www.scandlines.com](http://www.scandlines.com).

*Scandlines was founded in 1998 and is one of the largest ferry companies in Europe. Scandlines' core business is transportation of passengers and goods in the triangle between Germany, Denmark and Sweden as well as on routes to the Baltic countries and to Finland. In 2010, Scandlines transported 12.4 million passengers as well as 2.8 million cars and 800,000 trucks and trailers, and the prime mission is to provide efficient, reliable and competitive transportation.*



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*Bengt Pihl, CEO of Scandlines*